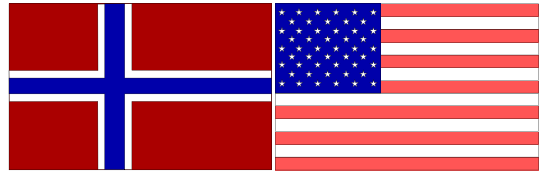


Sons of Norway



The Vegas Viking News

SONS OF NORWAY, VEGAS VIKING LODGE #6-152, Las Vegas, Nevada

JUNE/JULY 2010

Sixth District and International Lodge of the Year for 2001

**MEETINGS: 6:30 PM First Thursday
Las Vegas Library - 833 Las Vegas Blvd N.
(Near Cashman Field)**



Noen Ord Fra Presidenten:

Syttende Mai was on a Monday this year. I flirted with the idea of taking the day off work to celebrate, but thought better of it because of important meetings. So, instead, I wore Norwegian pewter cuff links.

An American friend who lived in Bergen, Norway, for a time chided me on our lodge Facebook page for holding a Syttende Mai picnic six days after the actual constitution day. While my friend was only half serious, it got me thinking (dangerous, I know). As a result, I came close to inviting you all over at the last minute to the house or a local bar restaurant to celebrate the real Syttende Mai.

Next year, Syttende Mai is on a Tuesday. I assume we'll still want to celebrate with a weekend picnic. But maybe we should do something on the real Syttende Mai, as well, even if it means simply meeting some place for a toast to the old country. Food for thought....

I'm excited about our June 3rd lodge meeting. Four of five of this year's scholarship winners will be there to be recognized, receive their checks and say a few words.

Then we'll hear a presentation from Sue Berger, author of a forthcoming book, "The Art-deco Dam."

Sue will discuss the work of the Norwegian-born, naturalized American artist, Oskar J.W. Hansen. Hansen created the 30-foot-tall "Winged Figures of the Republic" and other work at Hoover Dam, including a plaque commemorating the 96 men who "officially" died during the dam's construction.

The presentation will be timely since the dam was dedicated by FDR 75 years ago this year on September 30.

Hope to see you all there, Erik

Calendar . . .

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| June 2 | 10 AM - Board Meeting at Gwen Knighton's house (call Gwen at 869-5775 if you need directions.) |
| June 3 | Regular Meeting - Library
Sue Berger - "The Art-deco Dam"
Meet and greet our scholarship recipients (See article in NL) |
| NO MEETING IN JULY | |
| August 5 | Picnic/Party/Pot luck - more information will be coming in the August newsletter coming out the end of July. There will be no July newsletter. |

Happy Vacation Time
(even for your two editors)



June - July Birthdays

June

- 07 Thomas Mutschler
- 12 Gwen Loucks
- 14 Dick Killian
- 15 Junice Roberts
- 16 Diane Ansok
- 17 Eric Maland
- 25 Seton Sibert
- 30 Ivar Kristensen

July

- 01 Cort Sundbye
- 04 Ron Dille
- 12 Karen Holien
- 15 Jeanette Grove
- 16 Eric Olsen
- 18 Susan Thompson
- 20 Irene Gromek
- 24 Michel Mickelsen
- 31 Ivan Goplen

My apology to Carl-Uno for calling him Carol-Uno in his birthday wishes last month. The keyboard gremlins were at it again. So a belated Happy Birthday to **Carl-Uno Manros**.

There are no membership awards for June and July.

Sunshine . . .

Cards were sent to Nicki Foster, John Oberg and Donna and John Swartz. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

Please advise me of any happenings you know of, good ones as well. It is so important to stay in touch with members who are unable to attend.

Susan Sibert, Sunshine

Congratulations


Pins and certificates were awarded at the May meeting for recruitment of new members during the past year.

Winning awards were:

- Kris Baker
- David Foster
- Ivan Goplen
- Karen Holein
- Gwen Kighton
- Nora Martin
- Henny Morse
- Jerry Morse
- Bob Sievert
- Lollo Sievert

Good job everyone. That's what keeps our lodge alive.

For the June meeting, the "mat gruppen":



Nora Martin, Kris and Ivan Goplen, Elaine Halvorson, Colleen Wilson-Pappa, and Georgeann Ray.

A big thank you to those who provided May refreshments: Carol Foster, Suzan Sibert, Aase Hopkins, Lollo Sievert and Linda Kristensen.

*Linda Kristensen,
Social Director*

Welcome New Member

Jill Moe joined at the May meeting. She said being with the group felt like being back home with relatives. She likes the email newsletter and promises to send a profile.

A big Vegas Viking welcome - Gwen

Lefse Demonstration

at the May meeting was both educational and fun. Thanks so much to Nancy Madsen for making the trip here and bringing her lefse stuff.

She wrote me the following: "Someone had asked where to get some of my lefse making supplies. I checked and everything can be purchased from Bethany Housewares, 653-547-5873, or their web site - www.bethanyhousewares.com

The wider turning stick that I like is 1 1/2 inches wide and has Kolrosing (woodburning rosemaled type design) on the handle. Bethany Housewares also has this wonderful rounded loaf pan to make Norwegian Almond Cake. It is really yummy.

Solbakken's Freya Club Boutique also sells all this equipment. They go to the Southern California Kretsstevne and other events.

Sports and Recreation Award

The Silver Idrettsmerke was awarded to Tim Baker.

Congratulations, Tim.

*Arlon Sibert
Sports & Recreation Director*

June 2

Desert Troll Lodge will have their monthly meeting at the Boulder City Library, 701 Adams (at Georgia) in BC. The meeting is a pot luck.

Bert Hansen will present a travelog of his recent trip to Norway and Sweden.

Annual Scholarship Awards

The lodge Scholarship Committee met last month and combed through 10 applications before deciding to award \$2,500 to five deserving students.

This is our fifth consecutive year of awarding scholarships, which have totaled \$13,000 for needy, local Norwegian-American students. The money came from lodge fundraisers, individual donations and a lodge contribution of \$500.

We expect that four of the five winners -- one has a conflict with her class schedule -- will be at the June 3rd meeting of the lodge to be recognized and handed their checks. The winners are:

- *Christy Rasmussen (\$750),
- *Kristy Smith (\$750),
- *Erik Otterbach (\$500),
- *Julieann Ray (\$250), and
- *Spencer Manning (\$250).

The Scholarship Committee selected these students on the basis of grades, financial need, involvement in extracurricular activities, and the content and quality of the essays. Serving on the Scholarship Committee with me were Heidi Kasama, Linda Kristensen, Alice Salvesen and Suzan Sibert.

The success of this endeavor depends on the work of many members of the lodge. Thus, we raised more than \$360 from the March yard sale; and more from various members, including \$50 from the Finnilla Family Trust; \$25 from Kathy Rothermel; \$250 from Mildred Leavitt; \$20 from Carol Lommen; \$40 from Henny and Jerry Morse; \$100 from Gwen Knighton in memory of Millie Leavitt; \$50 from Alice Salvesen in memory of Bev White; \$600 from Mickey and Roy Kristiansen; \$100 from Charles Grove; and \$100 from Arlon and Suzan Siebert.

Thanks to all for your help!

For the members of the committee, selecting who gets money and who goes without is often very difficult, and we all wish we had more to give. To that end, the Scholarship Committee is exploring the possibility of holding a pancake breakfast or some similar event so that we can help more students achieve their dream of a college education. Stay tuned!

Erik Pappa

Sixth District Convention

David and Carol Foster, John Hansen, Gwen Knighton, Arlon and Suzan Sibert, and I will represent the lodge at the District 6 convention in Modesto, Calif., later this month.

This will be my first Sons of Norway convention, so I am anxious to see one in action, particularly since the district is interested in having Vegas Viking host the convention in 2012.

All delegates have been asked to participate in a fund raiser for the Sons of Norway Humanitarian Fund by soliciting pledges from lodge members.

The fund provides Helping Hands to Children grants for Adopt a School and children's heritage programs. It also awards Helpings Hands to Member grants to Sons of Norway members who lose their homes to natural disasters. If you are interested in contributing, please let me know.

Also, if you'd like to buy raffle tickets to support the convention and possibly win an antique Norwegian royal crest tapestry, please let me know. The 42-inch-by-32-inch wall hanging most likely dates from 1905 to 1925, according to a curator from the Vesterheim museum, and is in very good condition. I will bring a picture to the June meeting. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. The drawing will take place at the convention.

Finally, each lodge is supposed to provide cookies for all the convention attendees to munch on during coffee breaks. If you'd like to bake some cookies for the convention, please let me know. Any contribution would be appreciated.

-Erik Pappa

Know the Facts: Norway

In April of 2009 Nina Irslinger set the world record for the longest church organ marathon, after playing for 36 hours and 3 minutes at Evje church in Evje, Norway.

The world's tallest gingerbread man was made in Oslo, Norway in November of 2009. The world's tallest man, Sultan Kösen, unveiled the 1,435-pound gingerbread man during a promotional event held at Ikea.

Helldorado Parade

This year's parade promised to be a little warm but as the sun set in the west the temperature dropped and the weather became very nice.

We had 25 participants for the parade. Mike and Katie showed up in their Viking outfits so Mike was picked to carry the American flag. Karen Holein's cousin, Per, carried the Norwegian flag. Jerry picked up Ormen Korte from Bob and Lollo's and the trip to the staging area was uneventful which is how we like it. There was plenty of bunads and costumes and as usual we were a good looking group.

There were 123 actual groups taking part in the parade and we were # 107. This was the largest turnout so far and the crowd was the largest since Helldorado was restarted.

Because of space limitations I can't mention everyone but you know who you are. Thanks for participating and making this our best parade so far and just maybe we can be better next year.....Bob

Syttende Mai Picnic

After much planning we decided to have our picnic at the Spring Mountain Ranch State Park which is about 4 miles past Red Rock State Park entrance. The wind was a little brisk when I got up and I hoped Mother Nature would cooperate by giving us good weather for the picnic. HAHAHAHAAAA! We had Norwegian weather at the picnic grounds (wind, chill, rain, sun, mist, clouds and blowing dust) and the group of brave souls, around 40, that showed up and stayed were of true Norwegian toughness. As the Norwegians say "There is no bad weather, just bad clothes" and some had bad clothes. This is an El Nino year so the weather can be fickle but next year the weather will be back to normal and I hope we have the picnic at the Spring Mountain State Park again. I did hear Roy Sather say he sure wished Al Gore would send some of the global warming our way so the picnic wouldn't be so cold.

Colleen did a very good job with the children under the circumstances and we thank her for adding new blood to our group. Everyone, as usual, jumped in and helped where help was needed in our typical Norwegian way. We had a young exchange student from Norway show up and a gentleman from Lillehammer was there. Vibeke Courtney, her

husband and 7 month old daughter were there and her daughter was the youngest child in the children's parade. Carl-uno Manros and Karin Pethtud and her friend from Vasa also braved the weather to attend the picnic. I've been told to limit the report again so to all of you that were at the picnic I would like to say "TUSEN, TUSEN TAKK" and hope to see you at the same place next year.....Bob

YOUTH DIRECTOR REPORT

For those of you who attended the Syttende Mai picnic that was held on May 23rd, you know that despite the surprising winds and cold weather, we had a great time! As the youth director, I'm especially hoping that the children who attended the picnic had lots and lots of fun! From the feedback that I received, it seems that they did!!! We had a Viking exploration activity combined with a mini-language lesson. Everyone who participated received a drawstring pouch filled with goodies. In addition, I've learned that we have a lot of artists within our youth group. The children really seemed to enjoy our painting activity at the picnic. Even the wind trying to blow away their work didn't stop our artists. (We just used masking tape to hold their work to the table while they painted.) Of course, it also wouldn't be a Norwegian Constitution Day celebration without a children's parade. I am looking forward to seeing all of the pictures and videos of our wonderful children continuing this tradition...they were very cute walking through the park with their flags. I hope to see these same children, and those who couldn't attend this year, at next year's picnic. It really was a lot of fun!

As a reminder, if you have children attending the Vegas Viking meetings, I will have crayons, books, puzzles, word finds, and coloring pages to help keep them occupied. They will always have a Norwegian theme.

Please call me or e-mail me if you would like to help me plan activities. I am still looking for volunteers to help with language lessons. My e-mail address is cwpappa@prodigy.net and my cell is 702-523-7300.

Sincerely, Colleen Wilson-Pappa
Vegas Viking Youth Director

A special thank you to Bob and Colleen, and all the others who made this day so special.
--

St. Hans: Eat Your Porridge and Light Your Fire

Sankthansaften (Midsummer Eve) is the ultimate summer feast in Norway. On the evening of June 19, Norwegians light bonfires, pick flowers to put under their pillows, and celebrate summer and light.

The St. Hans celebrations have roots across northern Europe, and were also brought to Canada with the first French colonialists. In Canada, the celebration is called Saint-Jean-Baptist Day or Quebec National Holiday. The celebrations take on somewhat different forms in the different countries, but the origins are much the same. St. Hans is a Christian holiday to honor Saint John the Baptist (also called Saint Hans). The day of celebration was set to June 24 to outdo the pagan celebrations of midsummer or summer solstice. However, it is the celebration of summer, sun, and light that has survived in countries such as Norway. In Norway, celebrations take place the evening before June 24. *Aften*, as in St. Hansaften, means evening.

The tradition of lighting bonfires on this occasion came from the pagan belief in fire as the protector against evil spirits. The sun, which in the Northern hemisphere is at its highest at midsummer, probably inspired this belief. The night of St. Hans was supposedly a night of magic. If, for instance, a young girl picked seven flowers and put them under her pillow, she would dream of her future husband.

As on any day of celebration, food is important on St. Hansaften. When asked what she associates with St. Hansaften, Ingeborg Nygaard, the chef at the Norwegian Embassy, said: “bonfire, rømmegrøt (sour cream porridge), cured ham, barbeque, midsummer, sun, family, friends, children, and my childhood. On St. Hansaften I get together with my family and friends and go to a field to make a bonfire. We bring sour cream porridge, cured ham, barbeque food like sausages, and just have a good time for as long as we can stay awake. It is all about celebrating summer with the people you love the most. When I was little I was very superstitious. I made sure to jump seven fences and pick seven different flowers, put them under my pillow, and try hard to dream about a boy I liked.”

“Why we eat sour cream porridge on this day? Well, it is a tradition. Eating sour cream porridge on special holidays is a strong tradition in Norway, and St. Hans is a special holiday. Sour cream porridge is a tradition that goes far, far back in time.

It is such a simple and timeless recipe,” she said.

Rømmegrøt (Sour Cream Porridge)

Often served with cured meats and flatbrød (crisp bread)

This recipe serves 4

Ingredients

1 pint thick sour cream
12 tablespoons flour
1 pint milk
Salt



Preparation

1. Boil the sour cream, covered, for 2 minutes. Add half of the flour and stir carefully to bring the butter to the surface. Skim it off, reserve it and keep it warm.
2. Stir in the rest of the flour and add the milk. Simmer the porridge for 5-6 minutes. Season to taste with salt.

If one prefers a slightly tangy sour flavor, half of the milk added may be sour milk or kefir.

Sour cream porridge is eaten sprinkled with sugar and cinnamon and with the reserved warm melted butter. Some people also like to add raisins on top, as pictured above. Red juice, such as raspberry or currant, is usually served with the porridge.

Caroline Schonheyder/ Royal Norwegian Embassy

Walpurgis - On April 24, about a dozen Vegas Vikings joined the Swedish Valhallas for an afternoon of food, drink, and good fellowship. The Vikings were lucky on the prize drawings. The young girls made a flower wreath for Katherine Pappa and walked with her around the room, celebrating spring. A great opportunity to get to know our Swedish friends better.

Getting Tanked . . .

In olden days when you drank too much out of a tankard you were said to be “tanked” . . . if you got so “tanked” that you passed out, there was a chance that somebody might think you had actually died.

Since back then they didn’t have experience with taking pulses, they often buried people alive who were actually in a drunken stupor or otherwise comatose.

OH, THE GOOD OLD DAYS!!!

Westminster's Newest Norwegian Competitors

For the first time in the 134-year history of the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show a trio of Norwegian Buhunds competed among 13 other dog breeds to win a title at the prestigious dog show.



The dogs, and other recent additions to the show like Pyrenean Shepherds and Irish Red and White Setters, became eligible for the competition just last year after the American

Kennel Club formally recognized their breeds.

The three buhunds at the WKC dog show, Sophie, Casper and Lola, competed for individual titles within their breed as well as larger titles such as "best in show" and "best in group." While none of the buhunds took home the top awards, they were part of a select group of 25 buhunds that are part of the national competition circuit. Vali Eberhardt, Sophie's owner, speculates that the quality of the competitive buhunds is so high due to their sire, a dog named Magnus, who is related to almost every buhund in the U.S.

SON newsletter service

Fjords

Sixty-five million years ago, Fjord Norway was a gentle landscape with rounded hill formations and wide valleys. The land rose during the Tertiary period, and the ensuing formation of steep mountainsides gave new force to the rivers. The landscape was gradually worn down and now forms deep, steep-walled river valleys.

During the 40 or so ice ages that have hit Northern Europe in the past 2 to 3 million years (the Quaternary era), the ice flowed down the mountain sides and valleys in a slow-moving mass, collecting large rocks and boulders in its path and digging the valleys deeper and wider. The once flat landscape was slowly transformed into a land with steep-walled troughs leading to the sea. The enormous weight of the ice masses pressed down the land and carried glacial debris toward the sea—which is why most fjords are so-called threshold or bar fjords. These fjords are very shallow at the mouth but can

be up to 1,000 meters deep in the inner reaches.

The word "fjord" is one of Norway's contributions to the English language. See photographs of the Norwegian fjords and find travel information at www.fjordnorway.no.

This is a wonderful web site that starts with some beautiful pictures. Go down and click on The Viking Age in Western Norway. There is a wealth of information on this web site.

Norway's Oldest Stave Church

The ground under the Urnes stave church is sinking, and this national treasure in Sognefjord has begun to sink on its northern end.



During the summer of 2008, researchers worked to determine how much the church could be lifted and stabilized without being ruined. At the same time, dendrochronologist Terje Thun took tree ring samples from the oldest wood. The samples confirm that the church

was erected over a longer period in the 1130s.

It was shown that a portion of the church, including the northern wall, with its spectacular carvings, was actually recycled material from another church that stood on the same spot. The youngest of these tree timbers was felled about 1070. Based on wood samples, it was concluded that the Urnes stave church is the oldest Norwegian church that has been dated.



Vegas Viking 6-152 presents the Lindesness Trekkspillklubb (accordion club direct from Norway) on Monday, October 4, 2010 at 7 PM at Community Lutheran Church, 4720 East Tropicana, LV. Tickets are \$10 and are on sale now. This can be a great fund raiser for the lodge.

See Bob Sturgeon for details and tickets.



SOME FUN !!!

Ole's grampa Ole was 85 years old and loved to fish. He was sitting in his boat the other day when he heard a voice say, "Pick me up." He looked and couldn't see anyone.

He thought he was dreaming when he heard the voice again, "Pick me up." He looked in the water and there, floating on the top was a frog.

Ole said, "Are you talking to me?" The frog replied, "Yes, I'm talking to you. Pick me up and kiss me and I'll turn into the most beautiful woman you have ever seen. Your friends will be jealous because I will be your bride!"

Ole looked at the frog a while, reached over and carefully picked it up and put it in his front breast pocket.

The frog said, "What are you, nuts? Didn't you hear what I said? Kiss me and I will be your beautiful bride.

Ole replied, "Nah, at my age I'd rather have a talking frog."

* * * *

Lena went to visit Little Ole at college. He really wanted to bring his mom into the 21st Century, so he decided to show her the magic of the internet. He accessed *Ask Jeeves* and told Lena how it could answer any question she had.

Lena was pretty skeptical, but Little Ole said, "It's true, just ask anything."

Lena thought a while and then said, "Ask him now Aunt Inga is feeling."

* * * *

Ol and Lena got a wedding invitation that had R.S.V.P. printed at the bottom. Ole asked what that meant and Lena replied, "I guess you yoost don't know much about dese tings, Ole. It means *Remember to send vedding present!*"

* * * *

Two Norwegian bachelor farmers were talking and the subject of cooking came up.

"Yah, I got a cookbook vunce," said Lars, but I could never do anything vit it."

"Too much fancy cooking, den?" asked Pete.

"You said it," replied Lars. "Every recipe started da same vay . . . take a clean dish!"

Lemon Chiffon Bars

1 cup all purpose flour
1/4 cup sugar
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, melted
25 jet-puffed marshmallows
2 tsp grated lemon peel
1/4 cup lemon juice
1 cup thawed Cool Whip whipped topping
16 fresh raspberries (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Mix flour, sugar and butter until well blended. Press firmly onto bottom of greased 8-inch square baking pan. Bake 15 minutes or until lightly browned.

Meanwhile, mix marshmallows, lemon peel and lemon juice in large saucepan; cook on low heat until marshmallows are completely melted, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Cool crust and marshmallow mixture completely.

Add whipped topping to marshmallow mixture; stir with a wire whisk until well blended. Spread evenly over crust. Refrigerate at least 2 hours or until slightly firm. Cut dessert into 16 bars to serve; top each bar with a raspberry (or what you like, or nothing).

36,100 Norwegian waffle hearts served in Vancouver.

Did you know the Norwegian Seamen's Church in Vancouver mixed 190 gallons of waffle batter to make 36,100 waffle hearts during the Olympics?

The waffles and 217 gallons of coffee were served to more than 6,000 visitors, including Norway's Ambassador to Canada, Else Berit Eikeland.

The Norwegian Seamen's Church has operations in 50 cities around the world and serves as a cultural, social, and spiritual meeting place for Norwegians abroad. At the 2010 Winter Olympics the church welcomed all Norwegians and Canadians in Whistler to their temporary facility in the Maurice Young Millennium Place.

In its best tradition, *Sjømannskirken* established a home away from home with waffles, coffee, Norwegian newspapers and TV. Also, two worship services were celebrated during the Olympics; one ecumenical service in collaboration with local churches in Whistler and one with Their Majesties King Harald V and Queen Sonja as guests of honor.

News of Norway, 2010 Spring

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Historian, Aase Hopkins 869-5475
Librarian, Tim Baker 483-5909
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Jeanette Grove 645-8141
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Tubfrim, Roy and Mickey Kristiansen 434-3033
Name Tags and Sunshine, Suzan Sibert 645-6666
Camp Norge Ambassador, Arlon Sibert 645-6666
Cultural Committee: Carol Foster, Kris Baker, Kathy
Rothermel, Roy Sather, Elaine Halvorson, Henny Morse,
Sonja Swenson, Alice Salvesen, Gwen Knighton (**and
anyone interested is welcome**)

Vegas Viking Web Site

<http://www.vegasviking.com>

Webmistress - Lollo Sievert - 645-7457

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ALSO - www.facebook.com and search for

Vegas Viking and

www.twitter.com/VegasVikingGang

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SAVE STAMPS FOR TUBFRIM

JUNE/JULY 2010



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